



# CITY OF DAHLONEGA Council Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2023, 6:00 PM

Gary McCullough Chambers, Dahlonega City Hall

---

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 706-864-6133.

Vision - To be an open, honest, and responsive city, balancing preservation, and growth, and delivering quality services fairly and equitably by being good stewards of Dahlonega's resources.

---

## CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Mayor Gaddis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and informed the Council that Major Taylor was out of town, and he would be acting Mayor Pro-Tem in her absence.

## PRESENT

Councilmember Roman Gaddis  
Councilmember Johnny Ariemma  
Councilmember Ryan Reagin  
Councilmember Ross Shirley  
Councilmember Lance Bagley

## ABSENT

Mayor JoAnne Taylor  
Councilmember Ron Larson

## PRAYER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Mayor Gaddis asked Councilmember Ariemma to lead the prayer.

Mayor Gaddis asked Councilmember Shirley to lead the pledge.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gaddis asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Councilmember Bagley, Seconded by Councilmember Ariemma.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley

## PUBLIC COMMENT – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

There were public comments in support of the Arts and Wine festivals in Hancock Park.

Mr. Jim Gibbens and Tom Gordineer made comments regarding the City.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Meeting Minutes - Council Meeting June 5, 2023, Mary Csukas, City Clerk
- b. Meeting Minutes - Work Session June 20, 2023, Mary Csukas, City Clerk

Mayor Gaddis called for a motion to approve Meeting Minutes A and B.

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley

APPOINTMENT, PROCLAMATION & RECOGNITION: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

CITY REPORTS:

Financial Report - May 2023, Kimberly Stafford, Finance Director

1. City Manager Martin presents the May 2023 Financial report.  
Councilmember Ariemma is inquiring about the water and sewer revenue.  
Mayor Gaddis called for a motion to approve the Financial Report for May 2023.  
Motion made by Councilmember Reagin, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: None

CONTRACTS & AGREEMENTS:

2. Project #2023-011 International Dump Truck ITB, Ron Simmons, Water  
Distribution/Sewer Collection Supervisor  
This project involves purchasing a dump truck for the Distribution/Collection Department  
to replace a vehicle that has since been retired.  
Councilmember Shirley inquired into the life expectancy of this truck. Director Buchanan  
informed the Council of at least 20 years.  
Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley
3. 2023 Amendment to Agreement for Tourism Development Services, Allison Martin, City  
Manager  
City Manager Martin states that this is an amendment to the Tourism Development  
Services Agreement. The Tourism Committee will not receive its IRS determination letter  
before the agreement approved last year expires, so it is necessary to amend and  
extend the agreement until the letter is received.  
Mayor Gaddis called for a motion to accept the 2023 Amendment to the Agreement for  
Tourism Development Services.  
Motion made by Councilmember Bagley, Seconded by Councilmember Shirley.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley
4. Georgia Indigent Defense Services Agreement, Doug Parks, City Attorney  
This agreement is the annual renewal of the public defender contract.  
Councilmember Ariemma asked how often the program is utilized.  
Mayor Gaddis called for a motion to approve the Georgia Indigent Defense Services  
Agreement.

Motion made by Councilmember Shirley, Seconded by Councilmember Reagin.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley

#### OTHER ITEMS:

5. 2023 Strategic Planning Retreat Update, Allison Martin, City Manager  
City Manager Martin presented the information on the strategic planning retreat.  
Councilmember Ariemma asks if there will be a 100% rollback. He also questions the funds for 2024 and asks if the cemetery software is subscription-based.
  
6. City Manager's Proposed Budget, Allison Martin, City Manager,  
City Manager Martin presented the proposed FY 2024 Budget.

#### COMMENTS – PLEASE LIMIT TO THREE MINUTES

Clerk Comments – No Comment

City Manager Comments—City Manager Martin states that there will be a series of Public Listening Sessions in August. She hopes for more community engagement.

City Attorney Comment – No comments

City Council Comments:

Councilmember Ariemma congratulated the DDA/Main Street team on this year's great 4th of July program.

Councilmember Shirley commented on the wonderful program this past weekend.

Councilmember Bagley commented on the great 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

Councilmember Raigen made no comments.

Mayor Gaddis had no comments.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gaddis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Motion made by Councilmember Ariemma, Seconded by Councilmember Bagley.  
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ariemma, Councilmember Reagin, Councilmember Shirley,  
Councilmember Bagley